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Docket No.: SON-2563  
(PATENT)

THE UNITED STATES PATENT AND TRADEMARK OFFICE

In re Patent Application of:  
Koichiro Saga

Application No.: 10/501,155

Group Art Unit: 2812

Filed: July 13, 2004

Examiner: Not Yet Assigned

For: SURFACE TREATMENT METHOD,  
SEMICONDUCTOR DEVICE, METHOD OF  
FABRICATING SEMICONDUCTOR DEVICE,  
AND TREATMENT APPARATUS

**SECOND INFORMATION DISCLOSURE STATEMENT**

Commissioner for Patents  
P.O. Box 1450  
Alexandria, VA 22313-1450

Sir:

Pursuant to 37 CFR §1.56, the attention of the Patent and Trademark Office is hereby directed to the information item(s) listed on the attached PTO-1449. Unless otherwise indicated herein, one copy of each item(s) is attached. It is respectfully requested that the information be expressly considered during the prosecution of this application, and that the item(s) be made of record therein and appear among the "References Cited" on any patent to issue therefrom.

- ☒ 1. This Information Disclosure Statement is being filed (a) within three months of the U.S. filing date or the date of filing a CPA, OR (b) before the mailing date of a first Office Action on the merits in the present application, or (c) accompanies a Request for Continued Examination. No certification or fee is required.
- ☐ 2. This Information Disclosure Statement is being filed more than three months after the U.S. filing date AND after the mailing date of the first Office Action on the merits, but before the mailing date of a Final Rejection or Notice of Allowance.
- ☐ a. I hereby certify that each item of information contained in this Information Disclosure Statement was cited in a communication from a foreign patent office in a counterpart foreign application not more than three months prior to the filing of this Information Disclosure Statement. 37 CFR §1.97(e)(1).
- ☐ b. I hereby certify that no item of information in this Information Disclosure Statement was cited in a communication from a foreign patent office in a counterpart foreign application or, to my knowledge after making reasonable inquiry, was known

to any individual designated in 37 CFR §1.56(c) more than three months prior to the filing of this Information Disclosure Statement. 37 CFR §1.97(e)(2).

☐ c. A check in the amount of \$180.00 in payment of the fee under 37 CFR §1.17(p). Please charge any fee deficiency or credit any overpayment to Deposit Account No. 01-2300 as needed to ensure consideration of the disclosed information.

☐ 3. This Information Disclosure Statement is being filed more than three months after the U.S. filing date and after the mailing date of a Final Rejection or Notice of Allowance, but before payment of the Issue Fee. Applicant(s) hereby petition(s) that the Information Disclosure Statement be considered. Attached is our check in the amount of \$180.00 in payment of the petition fee under 37 CFR §1.17(i)(1). Please charge any fee deficiency or credit any overpayment to Deposit Account No. 01-2300 as needed to ensure consideration of the disclosed information.

☐ a. I hereby certify that each item of information contained in this Information Disclosure Statement was cited in a communication from a foreign patent office in a counterpart foreign application not more than three months prior to the filing of this Information Disclosure Statement. 37 CFR §1.97(e)(1).

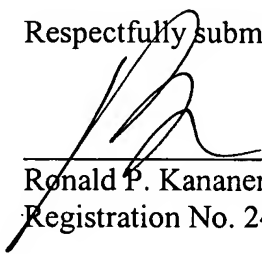
☐ b. I hereby certify that no item of information in this Information Disclosure Statement was cited in a communication from a foreign patent office in a counterpart foreign application or, to my knowledge after making reasonable inquiry, was known to any individual designated in 37 CFR §1.56(c) more than three months prior to the filing of this Information Disclosure Statement. 37 CFR §1.97(e)(2).

☒ 4. The references were discussed on pages 1, 5 and 7 of the specification as filed.

☒ 5. In the event any fees are due with this paper, please charge our Deposit Account No. 18-0013.

Respectfully submitted,

Date: October 19, 2004

  
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|   |   |    |   | Application Number       | 10/501,155    |
|   |   |    |   | Filing Date              | July 13, 2004 |
|   |   |    |   | First Named Inventor     | Koichiro Saga |
|   |   |    |   | Art Unit                 | 2812          |
|   |   |    |   | Examiner Name            | N/A           |
| Sheet   | 1 | of | 1 | Attorney Docket Number   | SON-2563      |
|   |   |    |   |                          |               |

| U.S. PATENT DOCUMENTS |                       |   |                                |  |   |
|-----------------------|-----------------------|---|--------------------------------|--|---|
| Examiner Initials*    | Cite No. <sup>1</sup> | Document Number<br>Number-Kind Code <sup>2</sup> (if known) | Publication Date<br>MM-DD-YYYY | Name of Patentee or<br>Applicant of Cited Document | Pages, Columns, Lines, Where<br>Relevant Passages or Relevant<br>Figures Appear |
|                       | AA                    |   |                                |  |   |
|                       | AB                    |   |                                |  |   |

| FOREIGN PATENT DOCUMENTS |                       |  |                                |  |   |                                     |
|--------------------------|-----------------------|--|--------------------------------|--|---|-------------------------------------|
| Examiner Initials*       | Cite No. <sup>1</sup> | Foreign Patent Document<br>Country Code <sup>3</sup> -Number <sup>4</sup> -Kind Code <sup>5</sup> (if known) | Publication Date<br>MM-DD-YYYY | Name of Patentee or<br>Applicant of Cited Document | Pages, Columns, Lines,<br>Where Relevant Passages<br>or Relevant Figures Appear | T <sup>6</sup>                      |
|                          | BA                    | JP 2001-21097 A  | 01/26/01                       | Kawasaki Steel Corp.                               |   | <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> |
|                          | BB                    | JP 2000-091180 A   | 03/31/00                       | Nippon Telegr & Teleph Corp.                       |   | <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> |
|                          | BC                    | JP 09-139374   | 05/27/97                       | Hitachi Ltd  |   | <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> |
|                          | BD                    | JP 2001-165568 A   | 06/22/01                       | Nipon Telegr & Teleph                              |   | <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> |
|                          | BE                    |  |                                |  |   |                                     |
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| NON PATENT LITERATURE DOCUMENTS |                       |   |                |
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| Examiner Signature |  | Date Considered |  |
|--------------------|--|-----------------|--|